



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on April 11, 2018 at the Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Martha Harris; Vice Chair Jana Lapoint; Amy Arata; John Bird; Nichi Farnham; Wilson Hess; Liberty Ladd; Elise McKendry; and Jane Sexton.

Excused: Wendy Ault and Ande Smith

Others Present: Scott Brown, Director of School Construction Programs; and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair, Martha Harris called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by student member, Elise McKendry: The Vision of the State Board is to ensure Maine public school students graduate with the skills, knowledge, and principles to be responsible American citizens; self-directed and dedicated to making contributions to society by pursuing further education and employment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by John Bird, seconded by Wilson Hess, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the February 14, 2018 minutes as amended.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Construction Committee (Amy Arata for Ande Smith):

The Construction Committee met on March 30, 2018, as scheduled.

- The Committee received a presentation from RSU 75 for Design and Funding Approval Consideration for the RSU 75 Mt Ararat High School construction project. The Committee voted unanimously to bring the project before the full Board on April 11, 2018.

- The Committee received a presentation from the Sanford School Department for Design and Funding Approval Consideration for the Sanford School Department PreK-8 School construction project. The Committee voted unanimously to bring the project before the full Board on April 11, 2018.
- Scott Brown provided an update on the Integrated, Consolidated 9-16 Educational Facility Rating Cycle and the Major Capital Improvement Program Rating Cycle. Additional information will be given to the Committee at the next meeting.

The next Construction Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 27, 2018. The meeting will be held in room 500 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Certification and Higher Education (Jane Sexton):

The Certification and Higher Education Committee met on March 28, 2018, as scheduled.

Certification:

- Received an update on the online system at the Certification Office. The Committee will get an update at the end of April on the pilot projects at Bangor and Gorham Schools.

Higher Education:

- The Committee was introduced to the new Higher Education Specialist, Jason Libby.
- The Syracuse Review Team Report will be emailed to Committee Members when completed.
- Purdue University bought Kaplan University. Purdue has filed for Degree Granting Authority. The Portland campus will be closing and they will keep Lewiston and Augusta campuses open.
- Chapter 13: “Qualifying Examinations for Teachers, Educational Specialists and Administrators” – Need a timeline for rule changes. Jaci Holmes will present a timeline at the April 25 Committee meeting, then it will be presented to the full Board in May and adopted in June.
- Chapter 115: “Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel” – Two work sessions completed and waiting for the Governor to sign the Resolve.
- There are Six Standards and for homework, each Committee member took two or three previous review team reports and reviewed one of the standards. Two members of the Committee completed their assignment. Jane asked Angel Loreda if the Department of Education Staff could assist with a rough draft of the other four standards.
- The Committee will work on the six standards at the next meeting and mesh them with the rubric that Jim Artesani at UMaine developed. The Committee will have training for all members of the Board in case

someone on the Committee is not available to attend a team review, all Board members will be trained to do so. Training may be conducted during the Board retreat in August.

The next Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 2018. The meeting will be at 1:30 PM this month instead of 9:30 AM. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Career and Technical Education (Wilson Hess):

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee met on March 29, 2018, as scheduled. Wilson thanked Committee members for their participation.

- The Committee reviewed Perkins balances used to date and there have been no changes since the last report.
- Briggs fund balances year to date also have no change since the last report.
- One of the Board’s strategic priorities was for the Board to be involved in changes of the funding in CTE programs in regards to the EPS formula that is used. This was the subject of LD 1843: “An Act to Amend Career and Technical Education Statutes”. The Board testified with four main points that became parts of the Committees final report out. LD 1843 is consistent with national trends in CTE financing and advances the stated strategic goals.
 - A proposed funding model provides a more equitable statewide distribution of CTE opportunities for students with costs of direct instruction which take into account a program-dependent teacher salary matrix, student to teacher ratio, education technicians, and clinical supervision staffing for health Care Programs.
 - A provision that provides “no time lag” funding mechanism for new program development and expansion which will be critical to doubling statewide CTE enrollment.
 - Provisions for funding pilot projects for middle school career and technical education projects.
- Received a Director’s Report from Meg Harvey.
- Received a report from the review of the Somerset CTE Evaluation that Wilson was honored to attend.
- In keeping with the goals as expressed to the SBE in February, the Committee continued their work on the competitive open-award process for future years with the Briggs Funds. The Committee allocated \$50, in multiple grants.
- The Committee will be introducing two motions later in the meeting. First will be expressing the dollar amounts and expressing the process along with the cumulative sums. The second motion will be that the Committee will present its recommendation for award recipients at the May 9 SBE Meeting. Wilson expressed gratitude to Donna Tiner at the DOE for guiding the Committee through the structure of the process.

- Goal bringing forth recommendations for FY 19 Perkins Funding. Informed by Donna Tiner that the process has been moved back about three weeks. Also, received recommendations on what the DOE suggests can be done with the 2018 carry-over funds. The Committee will have recommendations at the May 9 SBE meeting. They have suggested projects related to implementing middle school pilots and alignment of secondary and post-secondary programs.

The next Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 26, 2018. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Legislative Committee (Martha Harris for Ande Smith):

The Legislative Committee meets on Fridays at 12:30 PM mostly by Conference Call. The Legislative Committee is made up of the Chair, Vice Chair and Chairs of various Committees. The Committee discussed bills that have been in public hearing and work sessions.

OLD BUSINESS:

EMAIL ACCOUNTS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Ande Smith researched maine.gov email accounts for State Board Members, however, is not in attendance today. Chair Harris will move this item to the May 9, 2018 meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF THE BOSTON UNIVERSITY REVIEW CHAIR AND TEAM

BACKGROUND: Boston University has filed for degree granting status in the State of Maine. Most of their academic offerings will be online. Boston University will engage Maine business and organization to establish internships for their students. Ms. Linda Fuller from the College of the Atlantic has agreed to chair the review committee. A video conference is scheduled for April 20, 2018 at the Maine Department of Education with the academic personnel of Boston University to review the material submitted.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education approve Ms. Fuller as chair and the review team.

Boston University Review Team

Chair	Ms. Linda Fuller • College of the Atlantic
	Dr. Carol Kim • The University of Maine System

	Dr. Timothy Surette • University of Maine at Augusta
State Board of Education Observer	Wilson G. Hess

MOTION by John Bird, seconded by Jane Sexton, and unanimously voted by those present to approve Ms. Fuller as chair and the review team as selected.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; DESIGN AND FUNDING APPROVAL CONSIDERATION, MSAD 75 – NEW MT ARARAT HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

STATEMENT OF FACT: MSAD 75 Superintendent of Schools, Brad Smith, requests that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval for a new 750 student high school to be located at the current Mt. Ararat campus in Topsham. If approved, the new facility will replace the existing 43 year old “open-concept” school which posed education adequacy issues from the day the school first opened. The building also has many severe and inherent problems throughout the school including: poor air quality, lack of natural ventilation, lack of natural light, egress and fire code issues, deficient structural design, and poor acoustical separation.

The project received State Board of Education Site Approval on April 13, 2016 and Concept Approval on January 11, 2017. The project was approved by local referendum vote on March 7, 2017. The Department of Education’s construction staff is currently working with the architect in finalizing the construction documents for bidding. There have only been minor modifications to the building and site design through the review processes since Concept Approval. The new building has been designed to meet the Department of Education school construction standards and is in the final stages of receiving all required approvals.

Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to Title 20-A M.R.S. §15905(1) and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

Project Information

Project: New 9-12 High School
 Superintendent: Brad Smith
 Architect: PDT Architects - Lyndon Keck and Kathy Kahill
 School to be closed: Existing Mt. Ararat High School to be demolished after construction of new school.

Project Budget Information

Total Project Cost: \$60,704,671
 Local Only (no State participation): \$7,217,879
 Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$53,486,792

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner of the Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to MSAD 75 for the construction of a new High School in Topsham.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On March 30, 2018, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to MSAD 75 for the construction of a new High School in Topsham.

MOTION by Amy Arata, seconded by Nichi Farnham, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Design and Funding Approval to MSAD 75 for the construction of a new High School in Topsham.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; DESIGN AND FUNDING APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; SANFORD SCHOOL DEPARTMENT PREK-8 ELEMENTARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

STATEMENT OF FACT: Sanford School Department has four projects on the 2010 - 2011 Final Priority List and three of them, the Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center (#2), Emerson Elementary School (#4), and Lafayette Elementary School (#13) were placed on the Approved Projects List.

The Sanford School Department's PreK-8 Elementary Construction Projects received State Board of Education Site Approval on January 11, 2017 and Concept Approval on May 10, 2017. The projects were approved by local referendum vote on June 13, 2017.

Sanford Superintendent of Schools, David Theoharides, now requests that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval for an addition and renovation to the Margaret Chase Smith School, a PreK-4, 517 student Elementary School; a retrofit of the Sanford Junior High School into a PreK-4, 513 student Elementary School; and a retrofit of the Sanford High School into a 5-8, 1,002 student Middle School. These projects will result in the closing of three elementary school buildings: Emerson Elementary School, built in 1901, housing grades 1-3; Lafayette Elementary School, built in 1939, housing grades 1-3; and Willard Elementary School including the adjacent Memorial Gymnasium, built in 1940, housing grades 4-6. The projects will eliminate all portable classrooms in the district.

There have only been minor modifications to the building and site design through the review processes since Concept Approval. Those refinements addressed code, egress, and other Life Safety components. The schedules for the three projects have been coordinated for efficiency and to minimize disruption.

Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to Title 20-A M.R.S. §15905(1) and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

Project Information

Project: Sanford School Department - PreK-8 Elementary Construction Projects

Superintendent: David Theoharides

Architect: Harriman - Dan Cecil and Lisa Sawin

Schools to be closed: Emerson Elementary School, Lafayette Elementary School, Willard Elementary School, and Memorial Gymnasium

Project Budget Information

Total Project Cost: \$42,999,125

Local Only (no State participation): \$0

Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$42,999,125

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner of the Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to Sanford School Department for the additions and renovations of three schools in Sanford.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On March 30, 2018, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to Sanford School Department for the additions and renovations of three schools as presented.

MOVED by Amy Arata, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Design and Funding Approval to Sanford School Department for the additions and renovations of three schools as presented.

APPROVAL FOR A COMPETITIVE, OPEN-AWARDS GRANT COMPETITION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GEORGE BRIGGS TRUST COMPETITIVE GRANTS

BACKGROUND: The State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Committee met on March 29, 2018 for discussion regarding George Briggs Trust Competitive Grants. With the assistance of Donna Tiner, DOE, and the approval of the State Board of Education, the State Board will accept applications for George Briggs funding to support middle school and/or high school summer Career and Technical Education (CTE) exploration programs. The Board will allocate \$50,000 to award multiple grant opportunities for offerings to be conducted during the summer of 2018. These resources are available for experiences which either 1) allow secondary CTE schools to implement summer CTE offerings to stimulate the growth of CTE in Maine or 2) to implement CTE experiences for middle school students.

The George M. Briggs Trust was established through the generosity of the late George Millett Briggs of Turner for the purposes of supporting the field of career

and technical education and thereby enabling the young people of Maine to become self-supporting and useful citizens of the State.

RECOMMENDATION: (Motion #1) That the State Board of Education grant final approval for a competitive, open-awards grant competition in accordance with the “George Briggs Trust Competitive Grants” process developed by DOE staff and recommended by the Career and Technical Education Committee. Multiple awards will be made for summer 2018 CTE experiences which will facilitate the advancement of CTE Goal 2 and/or 3 (doubling CTE enrollment and implementing middle school CTE). The cumulative sum to be awarded is not to exceed \$50,000.

(Motion #2) The CTE Committee will present its recommendations for award recipients and amounts to be awarded at the May 9, 2018 meeting.

MOVED by Wilson Hess, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to grant final approval for a competitive, open-awards grant competition in accordance with the “George Briggs Trust Competitive Grants” process developed by DOE staff and recommended by the Career and Technical Education Committee. Multiple awards will be made for summer 2018 CTE experiences which will facilitate the advancement of CTE Goal 2 and/or 3 (doubling CTE enrollment and implementing middle school CTE). The cumulative sum to be awarded is not to exceed \$50,000.

MOVED by Wilson Hess, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present for the CTE Committee to present its recommendations for award recipients and amounts to be awarded at the May 9, 2018 meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF A NOMINATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE FOR CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Chair Martha Harris appointed herself as Chair of the Nomination and Election Committee with Jana Lapoint and Jane Sexton as members of the Committee, to bring back a nomination report for the May 9, 2018 meeting.

As Chair of the Nominations Committee, Martha Harris distributed the Board’s policy (from policy and procedures manual) to all members regarding the nomination of Chair and Vice Chair to the Board for the 2018/2019 year.

MOTION by Jana Lapoint, seconded by Jane Sexton, and voted four in favor with three members opposed (Amy Arata, Nichi Farnham, and Jane Sexton) to add an item to the agenda under new business. Motion Carries

MOTION by Jana Lapoint, seconded by Jane Sexton, and voted three in favor, with three members opposed (Amy Arata, John Bird, and Nichi Farnham) and one member abstained (Wilson Hess) to support L.D. 1666: An Act to Ensure the Successful Implementation of Proficiency-based Diplomas by Extending the Timeline for Phasing in Their Implementation”. Motion Fails to Carry

CHARTER COMMISSION REPORT (Jana Lapoint):

- 1) The 2016-17 Annual Report to the Commissioner has been distributed to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee and copies made available for State Board members.
- 2) Dr. Silvernail presented an analysis and recommendation for going forward with the performance framework which includes measures, metrics and targets for each indicator in the current framework.
- 3) Accepted notification of two new Governing Board members at Snow Pond Arts Academy.
- 4) Approved Baxter Academy's request for one additional Anytime/Anywhere Learning Day.
- 5) Established "check-in" meetings with Charter Schools – could be monthly.
- 6) Fiddlehead School of Arts and Sciences took the lead on putting together a "Charter School Board and Administration" gathering at the Senator Inn. It was well received and Harpswell agreed to take lead for next year's meeting.
- 7) Charter Schools will be working again with Panorama Education. These surveys analyze the social-emotional well-being of school (staff, students, teachers, and parents). School surveys are specific to each school based on the school goal(s) set in the fall based on the 2017 survey results. There will also be a section of questions based on snow day learning days as applicable. Schools were given an opportunity to create and submit custom questions they wish to get information on.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

The Board recognized Nichi Farnham with a gift and thanked her for her five years of service on the State Board. Chair Martha Harris thanked Nichi for being on the Certification and Higher Education Committee, her time spent in the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee Sessions, and for serving on the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Public Policies Committee. Nichi will be greatly missed at future Board meetings.

Chair, Martha Harris (written report)

This report is from February 14 through April 11, 2018 because the March meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.

- Martha participated in the weekly Legislative Committee meetings on Fridays. Thanks again to Ande Smith for his leadership in this regard.
- On March 30, she attended the Construction Committee meeting and the Agenda Review meeting with the Commissioner.
- The most significant time for Martha was attending the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Legislative Conference and Board of Directors Meeting from March 3 through March 6. Martha serves on the Board of Directors at NASBE and their meeting focused on the survey that was done regarding perceptions of members and non-members about the assistance and efficacy of NASBE for State Boards.

NASBE is undertaking a Strategic Plan initiative and the Board of Directors will be getting more information from the consultant at their June Board meeting. They also discussed the budget (past and future), the various committees and their future work. The Maine State Board needs someone to be on the NASBE Public Policies Committee because Nichi Farnham will be leaving the State Board. This Committee was meeting by phone once a month but may not need such regular meetings because the Committee streamlined the policy manual. Thank-you in large measure to Nichi for her great work on this committee. Board members should let Martha know if they are willing to serve on the NASBE Public Policies Committee.

Maine needs to continue to be involved in NASBE. Jane Sexton currently serves on the Government Affairs Committee and Wilson Hess serves on the Editorial Board for NASBE.

The NASBE conference itself focused on Equity and Excellence. Doris Kearns Goodwin spoke at the joint CCSSO (Council of Chief State School Officers) and NASBE dinner. The conference started in earnest on Monday with insights from former White House Education Advisors (Andy Rotherham, John Bailey, and Roberto Rodriguez). Martha attended a session on “Preparing Today’s Student for Tomorrow’s Jobs”. It was fascinating because they started with the fact that the first person who would live to be 150 was already born, and what that would mean for work life and other life (how many years in retirement). Macro trends are robotics, urbanization, globalization, demographics, environmental sustainability, increasing inequality and political uncertainty. Amazing that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is not in top ten of requested skills – rather it is the life-long skills; 20th century skills or our guiding principles. Various research was presented.

Next, she attended the session on what is happening in the federal government. Particularly discussed was Perkins, Higher Education, Education Sciences Reform Act, IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), Civil Rights, investigations, Disaster Relief and the Budget proposed by the President which everyone agrees will not end up being implemented. The President’s proposed budget eliminates money for professional development. Talking points for those who were going to discuss with their congressional representatives were given out. Martha opted out since it is only the Senate that currently needs lobbying and Senator Susan Collins knows and supports our position. Maine’s Board can send their positions to Senator Collins if it is suggested to do so.

Unfortunately, the Department of Education decided not to participate in the pilot program available to 30 districts for the innovative assessments authority under ESSA. Katie Brown is Senator Collins’ education policy advisor.

Martha then attended “Diving Deeper into Teacher Shortage Data: Implications for Teacher Preparation Programs”. Interesting that there is no national teacher shortage. Elementary education programs do not provide a broad liberal arts education and the courses that meet requirements are not geared to the knowledge needed. Obviously, there

are gaps in certain fields in higher levels – STEM and foreign language particularly. There was discussion about Title II funds for better professional development (Trump’s proposed budget eliminates these funds) – embedded. Equity does not mean equality. Teacher prep programs are low-status, considered easy, not as rigorous as should be. Need to improve status; loan forgiveness, more education re: mental health issues, special education and classroom management. The last session on Monday was “Building State Capacity for Equity”. There was a heartwarming presentation about “Lamarcus, an at-risk student in Mississippi who is making it due to an organization called Opportunity Inc. (or more likely due to the volunteer who is so committed to him).

The rest of the program talked about the Equity issues needed to be intentional and how to do so. The CCSSO has 10 equity commitments which include wrap-around services and integrated approaches.

Wisconsin has partnership and was touted as a model. Kansas was also a model. State Boards are challenged: 1- Do you know what is in your ESSA Pal; 2- what are the ways to improve it (not supposed to be stagnant); 3- what are the non-academic challenges – how to achieve at high level notwithstanding challenges; 4- how do we monitor progress? Design programs for most vulnerable; shift systems; integrate services not as single demographic.

Tuesday was on the Hill with Johnny Isakson, Senator from Georgia, very education oriented (he loves Senator Collins and Senator King); Bobby Scott, Senator from Virginia, who champions Education and the Workforce, PROMISE; and a presentation re: advancing equitable school funding (again emphasizing equity does not mean equality).

Most of the presentations are available on NASBE’s website, or you can call NASBE and have them sent to you.

- She has received numerous communications regarding safety and other school related issues, most of which had to be referred out since they are not in the State Board’s purview.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Elise McKendry (written report)

- On March 24, she presented at the Maine Teacher’s Conference at the University of Maine Farmington on proficiency based education.
- On March 28, her Math Team won the East-West Championship.
- Seniors won spirit week at her school.
- On April 5, she visited UMaine.
- She won the Chick Coleman Outstanding Volunteer of the Year award for ski patrol this season.

Jane Sexton (written report)

- She attended the New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC) High School Redesign in Action Conference on March 11 and 12, in Providence RI. The sessions she attended were encouraging Proficiency

Based Education. After hearing presenters, a person would know suggestions for local school modification. She learned that Traip Academy is giving a proficiency diploma this spring.

- She attended and chaired the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on March 28.
- She attended the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Council meeting on Tuesday, April 3 held at the Maine State Library in Augusta. The main topic was what is happening in the Legislature with LD 1861: “Resolve, To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Computer Science Education Task Force”. The Legislative Committee report was 11-1. Members were urged to follow the bill closely.
- She participated in the National Association of State Boards of Education Government Affairs Committee telephone conference meeting on April 9.
 - The increases in the Federal budget were presented.
 - Education in the areas of Title I and Title 4.
 - Department of Justice – money for school safety.
 - Department of Agriculture - money for Broadband and distance learning.
 - There were questions about citizen response to the large budget increase.
 - ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) – there are 14 states waiting final approval of consolidation
 - School Safety Commission – members limited to cabinet secretaries
 - Innovative Assessments – 4 letters of intent submitted
 - Open Conversation – What states do not have commissioners and superintendents of education. Person hired from one state and moving – vacancies keep changing.
 - Discussion on funding levels in the few states participating in the conference call meeting.

Nichi Farnham (written report)

- Being Nichi’s last Board meeting – she stated that she is thankful to have had the opportunity to serve with all members on the State Board of Education. Nichi had a huge thank you to Mary Becker for her patience and calm way of keeping the Board organized and prepared for their meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board went into executive session to discuss a student transfer appeal at 2:55 PM. The Board returned to the regular business meeting at 3:10 PM.

STUDENT TRANSFER APPEALS:

MOTION by Jane Sexton, seconded by John Bird, and voted five in favor with two members opposed (Amy Arata and Jana Lapoint) to overturn the Commissioner’s approval in the transfer decision of TM. The transfer is denied.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary Becker at the end of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The April 11, 2018 State Board of Education meeting adjourned at 3:12 PM.